

Report of	Meeting	Date
Director of Partnership, Planning & Policy (Introduced by the Executive Member for Planning & LDF)	Council	28 <sup>th</sup> November 2013

## JOINT ADVISORY COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE

### PURPOSE OF REPORT

- To provide details of proposed amendments to the terms of reference of the Joint Advisory Committee (JAC) for each constituent authority to consider and agree.

### RECOMMENDATION(S)

- The Council is requested to:
  - Agree the revised Terms of Reference of the Joint Advisory Committee as set out in para 8 (a-e) of this report;
  - Authorise the Director of Partnerships, Planning and Policy in consultation with the Head of Governance to negotiate and conclude a legal agreement setting out the revised governance arrangements of the Joint Advisory Committee; and
  - Give delegated authority to the Executive Member for Planning and LDF to sign off the legal agreement.

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF REPORT

- The terms of reference for the Joint Advisory Committee were established in 2008 with the specific intention of progressing the Central Lancashire Core Strategy to adoption. The completion of that work and a number of other factors relating to joint working across the Central Lancashire area mean that it is appropriate for the terms of reference to be reviewed as set out below.

<b>Confidential report</b> Please bold as appropriate	Yes	<b>No</b>
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<b>Key Decision?</b> Please bold as appropriate	Yes	<b>No</b>
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<b>Reason</b> Please bold as appropriate	1, a change in service provision that impacts upon the service revenue budget by £100,000 or more	2, a contract worth £100,000 or more
	3, a new or unprogrammed capital scheme of £100,000 or more	4, Significant impact in environmental, social or physical terms in two or more wards

## REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION(S)

### (If the recommendations are accepted)

4. To ensure that the terms of reference of the Joint Advisory Committee are up to date and reflect the priorities for joint working between the Central Lancashire authorities.

## ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

5. None.

## CORPORATE PRIORITIES

6. This report relates to the following Strategic Objectives:

Involving residents in improving their local area and equality of access for all		A strong local economy	
Clean, safe and healthy communities		An ambitious council that does more to meet the needs of residents and the local area	√

## BACKGROUND

6. The original terms of reference for the JAC agreed in 2008 are:
  - a. To make recommendations to Chorley, Preston and South Ribble Councils regarding the content, including document preparation timetabling, of the Local Development Schemes covering Central Lancashire.
  - b. To consider and examine issues relating to the production of a Joint Core Strategy for Central Lancashire and to make recommendations to the above Councils regarding the content and development of the Joint Core Strategy.
  - c. To make recommendations to the above Councils regarding future plan making associated with the preparation, implementation and monitoring of the Joint Core Strategy and other relevant documents in the Local Development Scheme.
7. These terms of reference were focused on the specific planning issues around the preparation of a joint Core Strategy for Central Lancashire and other development and supplementary plan documents flowing from the Core Strategy. The Core Strategy has now been adopted together with a number of Supplementary Planning Documents and work is progressing on separate site allocation Local Plan documents where there has been a considerable degree of collaboration on the necessary evidence base. The three authorities have also worked jointly on Community Infrastructure Levy charging schedules, having had a joint examination and bringing the schedules, which with the exception of a specific charge for Inner Preston have the same charges, into effect in September 2013. It is now appropriate to review the terms of reference of the JAC for a number of reasons.
  - a. The Localism Act 2011 (S110) amends the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 to impose a duty on Local Planning Authorities, County Councils and other prescribed bodies to co-operate in the preparation of plans, in activities that could reasonably be considered to prepare the way for plan preparation and activities that support plan making in so far as these relate to strategic matters involving:
    - sustainable development or the use of land or in connection with infrastructure that is strategic and has or would have a significant impact on at least two planning areas.

- Sustainable development or use of land for or in connection with infrastructure that is strategic and has or would have a significant impact on at least two planning areas.

The National Planning Policy Framework expands on how Local Planning Authorities can demonstrate evidence of how they have co-operated effectively on issues with cross-boundary impacts including by way of plans or policies prepared as part of a joint committee. The NPPF also says that co-operation should be a continuous process of engagement from initial thinking through to implementation, resulting in a final position where plans are in place to provide the land and infrastructure necessary to support current and projected future levels of development.

- b. The Preston City Deal II programme involves Lancashire County Council, which currently has observer status, in a more direct role in connection with the infrastructure planning and investment to support economic and social development, including unlocking new housing sites in both Preston and South Ribble. Investment by Lancashire County Council, therefore, now has a direct impact on the ability to implement the Central Lancashire Plan as set out in the Core Strategy. Whilst this doesn't directly impact on Chorley there are expected to be indirect benefits through widening development opportunities throughout Central Lancashire. Lancashire County Council is already a member of the JAC. The Preston, South Ribble and Lancashire City Deal II agreement signed with Government on 12th September identifies a role for the JAC on planning as part of the governance arrangements for the programme.
  - c. Central Lancashire is a fairly self-contained area for a number of purposes. It is identified as a single housing market with common characteristics. The Central Lancashire Strategic Housing Market Assessment measured the self-containment of the Central Lancashire Housing Market Area and found that a high proportion (77%) of housing moves were within the area. The area also has a relatively well connected labour market with strong commuting flows between Preston, South Ribble and Chorley. There is, therefore, a considerable degree of overlap on matters outside the land use or spatial planning issues covered in the Local Plan including such issues as housing need and economic development.
8. To reflect these wider connections and to take into account the changed legislative requirements it is proposed to revise the terms of reference of the JAC as follows:
- a. To keep under review plans and policies prepared by Chorley, Preston and South Ribble Councils (the Local Planning Authorities) and Lancashire County Council relating to the strategic planning of Central Lancashire as a whole with particular emphasis on such matters in which the area is self-contained and to make recommendations to each Local Planning Authority and the County Council on necessary amendments or alterations thereto.
  - b. To keep under review the evidence base relating to strategic planning matters (including relevant housing, economic, transport and environmental research) affecting Central Lancashire and make recommendations to each Local Planning Authority and the County Council on the commissioning of appropriate research to ensure that any such evidence base is kept up to date.
  - c. To monitor and report to each Local Planning Authority and the County Council on the effective delivery of strategic development as defined in S33(A)(4) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended) to ensure compliance with the duty to co-operate and specifically concerning the provision of new housing, new employment opportunities, the economic health of city and town centres, sustainable transport and the provision of infrastructure.

- d. To keep under review and make recommendations to each Local Planning Authority on the Community Infrastructure Levy charging schedule and Infrastructure List.
  - e. To make recommendations on the delivery of the Preston, South Ribble and Lancashire City Deal II.
9. With regards item e of the terms of reference above, given Chorley Council is not party to the City Deal II programme it has been discussed and agreed at the JAC that Chorley would act as an observer to matters relating to City Deal II and they would not take part in any decisions relating to City Deal II made by the Joint Advisory Committee.
10. The business and governance arrangements of the JAC was originally set out in an Agreement. This Agreement will need revising to reflect the revisions to the JAC terms of Reference.

### IMPLICATIONS OF REPORT

11. This report has implications in the following areas and the relevant Directors' comments are included:

Finance		Customer Services	
Human Resources		Equality and Diversity	
Legal	√	Integrated Impact Assessment required?	
No significant implications in this area		Policy and Communications	

### COMMENTS OF THE MONITORING OFFICER

12. The content of the report is agreed. The existing governance arrangements can be built upon to make them fit for purpose given the new terms of reference.

LESLEY-ANN FENTON  
DIRECTOR OF PARTNERSHIPS, PLANNING & POLICY

There are no background papers to this report.

Report Author	Ext	Date	Doc ID
Lesley-Ann Fenton	5323	5 <sup>th</sup> November 2013	***